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CINDY HYDE-SMITH  
MISSISSIPPI

COMMITTEE ON  
APPROPRIATIONS  
  
COMMITTEE ON  
AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION,  
AND FORESTRY  
  
COMMITTEE ON  
RULES AND  
ADMINISTRATION

United States Senate  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-2405

April 25, 2019

Brigadier General Kenneth R. LaPierre USAFR  
61 Forsyth Street SW  
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Dear General LaPierre:

The Vicksburg Corps of Engineers has notified the Environmental Protection Agency of a possible violation by the SHALE Support, LLC in Picayune, Mississippi. This is a surface mining operation.

Jeff Bartlam, President of SHALE, said, "They did not realize they went past their boundary and wish to mitigate any impacts as quickly as possible." This company is a good steward in the community and employ 120 people directly. Plus, there are approximately another 110 jobs indirectly related to SHALE.

Because SHALE is running out of currently permitted mining space, a lengthy delay would be devastating to this community if the company had to close due to this administrative process dragging out. These are high paying jobs critical to the families in this small town.

A Cease and Desist Letter was received on December 10, 2018 and a reply was made on December 31, 2018.

Your assistance in moving this process (review, and any mitigation) quickly would be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,



Cindy Hyde-Smith  
United States Senator

CHS/mlf



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION 4  
ATLANTA FEDERAL CENTER  
61 FORSYTH STREET  
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-8960

MAY 06 2019

The Honorable Cindy Hyde-Smith  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Hyde-Smith:

Thank you for your April 25, 2019, letter to Brigadier General Kenneth Lapierre, Director of the Office of Mission Support for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in Region 4, requesting quick resolution of a possible environmental violation by SHALE Support, LLC in Picayune, Mississippi. Your letter was forwarded to me for response.

The Vicksburg District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers referred the case to my office on April 25, 2019. The EPA has a policy to not comment on ongoing enforcement matters, therefore, I am unable to provide a more detailed response to you at this time. However, EPA seeks to resolve enforcement matters as expeditiously as possible and will do so in this case.

If you have questions or need additional information from the EPA, please contact me or Bryan Myers, in the Region 4 Public and Government Affairs Section, at (404) 562-9603.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "MSW".

Mary S. Walker  
Acting Regional Administrator